



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
of Montgomery County, MD, Inc.

December 22, 2011

Stephanie Killian
Multi-Family Housing Specialist
Department of Housing and Community Affairs
100 Maryland Avenue, 4th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850-2322

Dear Ms. Killian:

The League of Women Voters of Montgomery County, MD, (LWVMC) applauds your timely update of the July 2001 Montgomery County Housing Policy, "Montgomery County – The Place to Call Home." The League strongly supports comprehensive efforts to maintain and increase the supply of affordable housing based on the predicted increase in jobs and an increase in workforce housing. Further, LWVMC supports and encourages the provision of low and moderate income housing in all residential and mixed-use zones, including the new CRN and CRT zones.

We especially support permitting accessory apartments without special exception review and with adequate controls. Accessory apartments offer many benefits to seniors and homeowners having difficulty paying their mortgage. We support barrier-free housing and accessible housing for individuals with special needs such as disability or age. LWVMC encourages an increase in the stock of single room occupancy (SRO) housing. We support the preservation of the existing stock of affordable housing. Affordable housing must be included in transit-oriented development. Finally, we support revisions in the MPDU program to facilitate more affordable housing in high-rise projects.

Sincerely,

Barbara Hankins
Co-President